

**Mailliard on the Redwings of California.**<sup>1</sup>—The old question of the relationship of the *Agelaius gubernator* group to the *A. phæniceus* group of Redwinged Blackbirds is again here discussed by Mr. Joseph Mailliard, and the conclusion reached that "*gubernator* is directly connected with *phæniceus* and that *A. gubernator californicus* is rightly *A. phæniceus californicus*." This conclusion is based on a detailed study of a large amount of material from different parts of California, including a large series of specimens collected from a breeding colony in Stanislaus County. His paper is illustrated with photographs to show the variation in the amount of streaking on the ventral surface of a series of females, and the amount of black tipping the middle wing coverts of males, and by an extensive table of measurements of *A. gubernator californicus* and *A. phæniceus neutralis*; showing that neither size nor other alleged characters suffice sharply to separate these two forms, and that their real relationship is that of subspecies of *A. phæniceus*. The view here expressed is in harmony with that held by Coues in 1872 to 1884, and by Ridgway in 1874 to 1880, and by other good authorities of that period, and Mr. Mailliard's new evidence seems to point strongly to the conclusion that these 'lumpers' of earlier days were, at least in this instance, not far from right in their treatment of these forms.—J. A. A.

**Clark on Birds Collected or Observed in the North Pacific Ocean and adjacent Seas.**<sup>2</sup>—During the cruise of the United States Fisheries Steamer 'Albatross,' in the North Pacific Ocean and in the Bering, Okhotsk, and Japan Seas and adjoining waters, for the investigation of fish and marine invertebrates, Dr. Clark, the author of the present report on the birds collected or observed on the cruise, was able, in addition to his work on fishes and marine invertebrates as the representative of the Fisheries Bureau, to devote considerable attention to the birds met with. In addition to the 180 specimens brought home as skins, many more were studied in the flesh or observed in life. The notes and the specimens taken during the trip form the basis of the present report, which comprises notes on about 175 species, nearly equally divided between water birds and land birds. Observations began with the departure of the 'Albatross,' May 3, from San Francisco, and were continued until the steamer again dropped anchor at San Francisco, December 10.

The author was able to spend a day or two on shore at Dockton, Wash-

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<sup>1</sup> The Status of the California Bi-colored Blackbird. By Joseph Mailliard. Condor, March, 1910, pp. 63-70, figs. 22, 23, from photographs by the author.

<sup>2</sup> The Birds collected and observed during the Cruise of the United States Fisheries Steamer "Albatross" in the North Pacific Ocean, and in the Bering, Okhotsk, Japan, and Eastern Seas, from April to December, 1906. By Austin Hobart Clark, Assistant Curator, Division of Marine Invertebrates, U. S. National Museum. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XXXVIII, No. 1727, pp. 25-74. Published April 30, 1910.

ington, at Union Bay, Vancouver Island, at some of the Aleutian Islands, a few hours at Copper Island and Bering Island, with short halts at various points along the Japanese and Kamchatkan coasts. The list contains important notes on many of the species, as the Puffins, Auklets, Guillemots, and other sea birds met with along the American coast, in the Aleutian Archipelago, in the Kuril Islands, and along the coast of Kamchatka. The only Point Barrow Gull seen was observed in Patience Bay, Sakhalin, while the Vega Gull "was rather common in Unalga Pass, near Unalaska," and was seen again, in small numbers, in Avacha Bay, Kamchatka. There are also interesting notes on the Albatrosses, the Pacific Fulmar, and the various species of Petrel observed. The Kamchatkan Sea Eagle (*Thrasaëtus pelagicus*) is recorded as seen near the town of Unalaska, but unfortunately was not obtained. So sure is Dr. Clark of its identification that he says: "A thorough survey of these [Aleutian] islands may show that this species, as well as *Haliaëtus albicilla*, which has been recently recorded from Unalaska, are of more or less regular occurrence throughout the whole group."

Under *Lagopus lagopus alexandræ* are several pages of critical notes on Ptarmigans, with figures of bills of three forms of the *L. lagopus* group, and a key to the American subspecies of *Lagopus lagopus*, three being recognized, as follows: (1) *L. l. alleni*, Newfoundland; (2) *L. l. albus* (Gmelin), inhabiting "northern Labrador, westward and northward to northern Alaska, reaching Point Barrow, Kotzebue Sound, Cape Lisbourne, and Kowak River (type locality, Hudson Bay)"; (3) *L. l. alexandræ*, "southern Alaska, from coasts of Norton Sound and Alaska Peninsula, including Kadiak and Shumagin islands, southeastward to mountains of southeastern Alaska."

The paper as a whole contains much interesting information about a large number of species, particularly the pelagic forms and those breeding at the various northern islands visited. The cruise afforded rare opportunities for ornithological observation, and they seem to have been well utilized.—J. A. A.

**Clark on Birds collected by P. L. Jouy in Korea.**<sup>1</sup>—The late Pierre Louis Jouy spent over three years (between 1881 and 1886) in Korea, and at the time of his untimely death in 1894 was engaged in the preparation of a report on the ornithological collection made by him in that country, numbering 554 specimens, and representing, according to Dr. Clark's present account, about 165 species. In 1907 Dr. Clark published a considerable number of new species from Jouy's collection,<sup>2</sup> and incidental

<sup>1</sup> Report on a Collection of Birds made by Pierre Louis Jouy in Korea. By Austin F. Clark, Assistant Curator, Division of Marine Invertebrates, U. S. National Museum. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XXXVIII, No. 1735, pp. 147-176. Published May 9, 1910.

<sup>2</sup> For a review of this paper see Auk, Vol. XXIV, 1907, p. 453.